Indiana State Board of Education Request for Freeway School Accreditation

Board Date: April 4 2012

School: St. Paul Lutheran School

Education Director: Myra Remmel

<u>Address</u>: 818 Franklin Square

Michigan City, Indiana 46360

Grade Span: K-8

<u>Public/Private</u>: Private

Current Enrollment: 163

Targeted Population: Families in the Michigan City area seeking a faith-based private school for

their children.

The following executive summary has been compiled by the Office of School Accreditation for use by the Indiana State Board of Education. It includes information presented by the school during the accreditation process, potential legal standard issues, and any other information collected during the process that may impact accreditation.

Identity: The founding fathers of St Paul Lutheran congregation realized the need and responsibility of providing a Christian education for their children. Both the sanctuary and the classroom were so important to them that St. Paul Lutheran School has a history as long as the congregation itself. (March 13, 1876). The current building consists of eight classrooms a library, computer lab, a beautiful art and music room, offices for the principal and secretaries and a spacious Fellowship Hall which serves as the gymnasium and assembly hall with adjoining kitchen facilities.

<u>Curriculum</u>: St. Paul is a member of the American Lutheran Education Association and offers educational instruction for K-8 in the fine arts, physical education, study skills, computer technology, religion as well as the core subjects. The Indiana academic standards and the core curriculum is the guide on our journey to help our students be proficient and exceptional. Currently we are in the process of curriculum mapping with specific goals for our school improvement plan beyond the petition being used as our school improvement plan.

<u>Testing History:</u> We will change our testing from the NWEA to ISTEP+ testing. We would like to continue doing the testing in the computer lab. To track and improve student performance, each student's score will be reviewed and individual learning plans implemented when necessary. Using the scores students receive additional time either for remedial work or enrichment based on their scores.

Our current N.W.E.A. RIT Score Correlation to I.S.T.E.P. (spring testing Window) 2010-2011:

Mathematics ISTEP Pass & Pass+ 88.5% Language Usage ISTEP Pass & Pass+ 89.4% Reading ISTEP Pass & Pass+ 91.6%

Staffing: Our faculty is the most important factor in determining the quality of education delivered to our students. The faculty consists of mostly degreed teachers who have training in the areas they teach. The number of teaching faculty is (10) full time teachers, (4) part time teachers and (1) teacher aid plus (1) administrative assistant, (1) part time secretary and a full time principal. The majority of teachers are licensed educators.

<u>Waiver Requests</u>: St Paul School desires to be exempted from any and all statutes that permit a school from operating from a Christian perspective, including textbook selection.

St Paul will choose a curriculum in keeping with our Lutheran faith and will evaluate the curriculum annually in the areas of Health, Character Education, Hygiene, Alcohol and Drugs, Sexually transmitted diseases, Honesty, Respect and Abstinence

<u>Issues</u>: None

Recommendations: Full Five-Year Freeway Accreditation